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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : ABELS et al.  
Serial No : 10/632,017  
Filed : July 31, 2003  
For : BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT  
Art Unit : 3679  
Examiner : Ernesto Garcia  
Dated : March 7, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

In response to the Final rejection dated December 7, 2005, please consider the remark  
as follows:

*Enter  
E.R. 3/15/06*